

Appl. No.: 10/563,615  
Reply to Office Action of: 02/20/2009

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A casing for a handheld device defining a generally planar operating face for providing an input mechanism and a display region and having a first axis defining an operation orientation of the device, the casing providing first and second side sweeps confronting each other at respective ends defining the shape of the generally planar operating face and providing discontinuities at their respective confrontations, the alignment of the discontinuities defining a second axis along the longest span of the casing.
2. (Original) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein an audio axis for carrying a spaced microphone and speaker is aligned with the second axis.
3. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the confrontation comprises a physical convergence of the respective side sweeps.
4. (Currently amended) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the confrontation is provided by ~~external~~ user detachable elements carried by the casing.
5. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the second axis lies along a diagonal.

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6. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 5 wherein the other diagonal is truncated.

7. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 6 wherein the truncated diagonal runs terminates at a rounded corner.

8. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 6 wherein the truncated diagonal terminates at a rounded corner at both extremities.

9. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 8 wherein the rounded corners provide two sweeping sides.

10. (Currently amended) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 5 wherein the ~~elongate~~ diagonal is coincident with the second axis and is elongate and terminates at a point.

11. (Currently amended) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 5 wherein the ~~elongate~~ diagonal is coincident with the second axis and is elongate and terminates at a point at both extremities.

12. (Currently amended) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first axis and second ~~axes~~ axis intersect in the display region of the face.

13. (Currently amended) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first axis and second ~~axes~~ axis intersect at the input region of the face.

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14. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the face is generally rectangular.

15. (Previously presented) A casing for a handheld device in accordance with claim 14 wherein the rectangle is generally square.

16. (Previously presented) A handheld telecommunications device comprising a casing according to claim 1.

17. (Currently amended) A handheld telecommunications device according to claim 16 wherein an audio axis for carrying a spaced microphone and speaker is aligned with the second axis, and wherein the first axis and audio axis are misaligned such that when the device is moved from the viewing to the listening position the rotation of the audio axis in the face of the casing device required for alignment of the speaker and microphone outlets with the ear and mouth respectively of the user ~~when moving from the viewing to the listening position~~ is greater than that required for alignment of the viewing axis with the ear and mouth.

18. (Previously presented) A handheld telecommunications device according to claim 16 wherein the device can be held in the hand in the proper orientation for viewing the display and lifted to the ear in proper orientation for audio communication whilst maintaining substantially the same lateral position of the user's wrist.

19-20. (Cancelled).

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21. (New) A casing as claimed in claim 1, wherein the casing has substantially 180 degree rotational symmetry.

22. (New) A casing for a handheld device defining a generally planar operating face, for providing an input mechanism and a display region,

wherein the generally planar operating face comprises a face in a plane and has a first axis that lies in the plane defining an operation orientation of the device,

the casing providing first and second side sweeps confronting each other at respective ends,

the confronting side sweeps defining the perimeter of the generally planar operating face and providing first and second discontinuities at their respective confrontations,

the alignment of the first and second discontinuities defining a second axis that lies in the plane along a single longest span of the perimeter of the casing and intersects the first axis at an angle in the plane,

wherein the first side sweep has a first length along the perimeter between the first discontinuity and the second discontinuity, greater than the longest span and

as the first length is traced from the first discontinuity to the second discontinuity along the perimeter a displacement of the perimeter from the second axis increases and then decreases and

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wherein the second side sweep has a second length along the perimeter between the first discontinuity and the second discontinuity, greater than the longest span and as the second length is traced from the first discontinuity to the second discontinuity along the perimeter a displacement of the perimeter from the second axis increases and then decreases.

23. (New) A casing as claimed in claim 22 wherein an audio axis for carrying a spaced microphone and speaker is aligned with the second axis and wherein the display region lies between the microphone and the speaker.